

## Abstract

There is therefore a need to be able to change a front panel in a straightforward manner without requiring tools or spare parts. In order to fulfill this need, a recording medium drive device of the present invention includes a body; at least signal reading means, of signal writing means for writing signals to a recording medium and the signal reading means for reading signals provided within the body, and a front panel covering the front of the body and having an insertion/removal opening for inserting and removing the recording medium to and from the body. The front panel is supported in a freely detachable manner as a result of engagement with the body, and the engagement is achieved by moving the front panel towards the body, and a force to move the front panel away from the body acts in a direction releasing the engagement.